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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,049	10/31/2003	Toshiaki Hata	Q77939	8383
23373	7590	03/27/2006	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			SHIMIZU, MATSUICHIRO	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	

DATE MAILED: 03/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/697,049	HATA, TOSHIAKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matsuichiro Shimizu	2635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Amendment

The examiner acknowledges currently amended claims 1–2 and new claim 11.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to currently amended claim 1 has been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection wherein claim 1 cites further limitation as in "an operation–equipment limiting part disposed at a vehicle".

Furthermore, the examiner withdraws previously allowed claims 2–6 in view of new rejection.

Therefore, rejection of claims 1 –11 follows:

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1–2, 4–6 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa (6,414,586).

Regarding claim 1, Konno teaches an antitheft device for a vehicle (Fig. 1, portable transmitter 12 and scooter) which is propelled by a driving force of an engine, said device comprising:

a first switch (Fig. 1, col. 7, lines 11–13, lock button on portable transmitter 12 to transmit an ID code) adapted to be turned on from the outside to send a first prescribed ID code;

an operation–equipment operation determining part that receives said first ID code to generate permission information (col. 5, lines 27–53, collation coincidence signal) for releasing a limited state of said operation equipment; col. 6, lines 62–67, engine can be started upon permission information) caused by said operation–equipment limiting part;

a nonvolatile memory for storing said permission information (col. 6, lines 62–67, storage or collation result holding means 23 associated with permission information); and

an engine operation limiting part (col. 6, lines 62–67, outputting of permission information from holding means 23) that permits the operation of said engine in response to said permission information, and limits (col. 6, lines 62–67, within the short preset time to start the engine) the operation of said engine based on an operating state of said engine;

wherein said operation–equipment operation determining part stores in advance a second ID code corresponding to said first ID code (col. 5, lines 27–53, ID code transmitted 12), collates said first ID code with said second ID code (col. 5, lines 27–53, second ID or predetermined ID code stored), and generates said permission information (code (col. 5, lines 27–53, coincidence upon ID matching) thereby to permit the operation of said operation equipment as well as to make said permission information stored in said nonvolatile memory, when the collation result of said first and second ID codes indicates coincidence there–between.

But Konno is silent on an operation-equipment limiting part disposed at a vehicle for limiting the operation of operation equipment for said vehicle through external operation (Fig. 1, portable transmitter 12).

However, Yoshizawa teaches, in the art of remote control system, an operation-equipment limiting part (34) disposed at a vehicle for limiting the operation of operation equipment (door locks) for said vehicle through external operation (transmitter 40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include an operation-equipment limiting part disposed at a vehicle for limiting the operation of operation equipment for said vehicle through external operation in the device of Konno as suggested by Yoshizawa because such separate operation provides specific or individual control of door locks and engine control without unnecessary action of other elements/devices.

Regarding claim 6, Konno is silent on said first switch includes a key and a key cylinder for said vehicle; and said first ID code is sent by said key's being inserted into said key cylinder.

However, Yoshizawa teaches, in the art of vehicle security system, said first switch includes a key and a key cylinder for said vehicle; and said first ID code is sent by said key's being inserted into said key cylinder (col. 3, lines 33-51, a key 10 in the steering column key receptacle wherein ID code is transmitted) for the purpose of providing engine start. Therefore, it would

have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include said first switch includes a key and a key cylinder for said vehicle; and said first ID code is sent by said key's being inserted into said key cylinder in the device of Konno because Konno suggests lock button in the transmitter and Yoshizawa teaches said first switch includes a key and a key cylinder for said vehicle; and said first ID code is sent by said key's being inserted into said key cylinder for the purpose of providing engine start.

Regarding claim 11, Yoshizawa teaches said operation-equipment limiting part is not portable (Fig. 1, door lock, door unlock, engine start, etc. are operation-equipment limiting part disposed at the vehicle, and not portable, like transmitter 10).

All subject matters except a second switch adapted to be turned on from the outside to send a third prescribed ID code in claim 2 are discussed above with regards to claims 1. However, Yoshizawa teaches, in the art of remote control system, second switch adapted to be turned on from the outside to send a third prescribed ID code (Fig. 1, lock 41 or unlock 42 button) for the purpose of providing specific operation. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include second switch adapted to be turned on from the outside to send a third prescribed ID code in the device of Konno as suggested by Yoshizawa because such separate operation provides specific or individual control of door lock or unlock control without unnecessary action of other operations.

Therefore rejection of the subject matters expressed in claims 2 are met by references and associated arguments applied to rejection of claim 1 and to rejection provided in the previous paragraph.

Regarding claim 4, Yoshizawa continues, as claimed in claim 2, to teach said first and second switches generate instruction information corresponding to a plurality of functions to said operation–equipment operation determining part (Fig. 1, first switch 41 to lock a plural doors and second switch 42 to unlock a plural doors).

Regarding claim 5, Yoshizawa continues, as claimed in claim 2, to teach said first and second switches are arranged inside a portable transmitter isolated from said operation–equipment operation determining part (Fig. 1, first switch 41 and second switch 42).

Claims 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Lipschutz (4,583,148).

Regarding claim 3, Konno in view of Yoshizawa is silent on the antitheft device for a vehicle as set forth in claim 2, wherein said operation–equipment limiting part comprises an electromagnetic locking device.

However, Lipschutz teaches, in the art of vehicle security system, said operation–equipment limiting part comprises an electromagnetic locking device (col. 2, lines 49–69, an electromagnetic locking device associated with operation–equipment limiting part is activated when key 2 is inserted and correct code is received 10 by the actuated transmitter 9) for the purpose of starting the ignition process of the engine. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the

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invention was made to include said operation—equipment limiting part comprises an electromagnetic locking device in the device of Konno in view of Yoshizawa as suggested by Lipschutz because such operation by an electromagnetic locking device provides specific anti-theft measure of the vehicle without unnecessary action of other operations.

Claims 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Mueller et al. (6,140,914).

Regarding claim 7, Konno in view of Yoshizawa is silent on warning from vibration sensor.

However, Mueller teaches, in the art of vehicle security system, warning from vibration sensor (col. 9, lines 17–36, shock warning 250' associated with vibration warning) for the purpose of providing antitheft feature. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include warning from vibration sensor in the device of Konno in view of Yoshizawa as suggested by Mueller because such warning provides the vehicle the anti-theft measure.

Claims 8–10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Espinosa (5,448,218).

Regarding claims 8–10, Konno in view of Yoshizawa is silent on interrupting an ignition signal to limit engine operation, and bringing engine into stopped state and impossible to restart.

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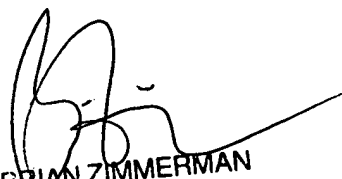
However, Espinosa teaches, in the art of vehicle security system, interrupting a fuel supply signal to limit engine operation (col. 3, lines 58 to col. 4, line 16, fuel valve control via fuel supply signal), and bringing engine into stopped state and impossible to restart (col. 4, lines 17-26, bringing engine in stopped state and subsequently impossible to restart) for the purpose of providing antitheft feature. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include interrupting a fuel supply signal to limit engine operation, and bringing engine into stopped state and impossible to restart in the device of Konno in view of Yoshizawa as suggested by Espinosa because such measure of impossibility to start the engine provides high level of anti-theft system.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matsuichiro Shimizu whose telephone number is 571-272-3066. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on 571-272-7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3068.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-8576).

Matsuichiro Shimizu
March 20, 2006



BRIAN ZIMMERMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER